

Applic. No. 09/927,545
Amdt. dated September 17, 2007
Reply to Office action of July 17, 2007

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Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-15 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended.

In item 2 on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 1-16 have been rejected as being obvious over Ohwada (U.S. Patent No. 4,443,849) in view of Lytel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,039,189) (hereinafter "Lytel") under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

The rejection has been noted and the claims have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. The claims are patentable for the reasons set forth below. Support for the changes is found in Figs. 1 and 2 and on page 8, lines 9-16 and page 15, lines 19-21 of the specification.

It is noted that on lines 19-21 on page 15 of the specification, the function of the input units is described. There it is disclosed that the error mode can either switched via input or automatically via a second control apparatus.

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This explicitly defines that the input is a manual input and not just an input signal, otherwise the input would not be an alternative to the automatic switching, because the automatic switching by the control apparatus does not require a manual input. Therefore, in the claims of the instant application the input unit is a manual inputs which includes mice, trackballs, keyboards and the like.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claims 1 and 9 call for, inter alia:

connecting the apparatus to an input unit, enabling the apparatus for switching an error mode on or off via the input unit, checking whether the error mode is switched on via the input unit.

On page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner stated that an error detecting circuit is provided which checks incoming signal package units. Therefore, the input is the incoming digital signal, which reads on the second alternative (dependent on a condition, automatically via second control apparatus 5) on page 15, lines 19-21 of the instant application. Ohwada discloses an input signal that is signal

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data and not a manual input from an input unit, as required in the claims of the instant application. Furthermore, to even further distinguish the claims, claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite that the input unit is connected to a control apparatus. Therefore, signal data of Ohwada does not read on the switching an error mode on or off via the input unit, as recited in the claims of the instant application.

The Lytel reference does not disclose switching an error mode on or off via an input. Therefore, Lytel does not make up for the deficiencies of Ohwada.

It is a requirement for a *prima facie* case of obviousness, that the prior art references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

As seen from the above-given remarks, the references do not show or suggest connecting the apparatus to an input unit, enabling the apparatus for switching an error mode on or off via the input unit, checking whether the error mode is switched on via the input unit, as recited in claims 1 and 9 of the instant application.

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The references applied by the Examiner do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Therefore, it is believed that the Examiner has not produced a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Since independent claims 1 and 9 are believed to be allowable, dependent claims 2-8 and 10-16 are believed to be allowable as well.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 or 9. Claims 1 and 9 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 9, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-16 are solicited.

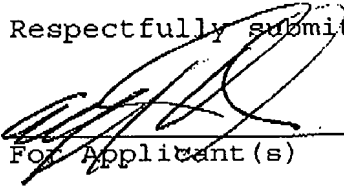
In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect
to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner
Greenberg Sterner LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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